

## And the (Rabbi) Search Goes On

The work of the Rabbi Search Committee continues. As we reported in February, we have received resumes and extended statements from the candidates, prepared our telephone and in-person interview questions, and are excited to proceed to the next step. We have scheduled our first telephone interviews for early March and will soon schedule others. Although we expect to be receiving additional resumes, we are going ahead with interviews for those we already have. The phone interviews will allow us to determine who we will interview in person. We expect to be able to schedule those visits for April, so watch this space for updates. Also, thank you to those of you who have been sharing your thoughts and observations with us. Your input continues to guide us in this important work.

## Bringing Judaism into Practical Service

First of all, Todah Rabah, to all the volunteers who got up early to plant trees in honor of Tu B'Shevat: Tom Whiting, Michael Schaffer, Claire Rappaport, Alan Gordon, Pam Miller, Zack Miller, Tony Harris, Mark Gershman and Social Action Co-Chair Allan Berenstein. This mitzvah honors the Jewish birthday of the trees while healing the environment in which we live. Sha'ar Zahav's Social Action Committee continually strives to bring the essence of Judaism, doing good to others, into practical service. On Friday March 17, at noon, join us as we bring the spirit of Purim to, and cook a hot lunch for, Jewish seniors living in the Tenderloin. Take a few hours and experience what it truly means to be a mensch. To participate in the Tenderloin Lunch, please call Allan Berenstein 863-8033 or Dahlia Gross at 575-4961.

## CSZ 101

Have you ever wondered when CSZ got started, how it works, what effect it has on the wider world? Do you puzzle over the stuff we sing and say and do in the sanctuary? Do you wonder how CSZ can serve congregants of different ages, backgrounds, and abilities? Now is your chance to find out. Please join us at the synagogue for CSZ 101, a fun and friendly orientation class.

We'll meet every Thursday evening in March, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

The five sessions are:

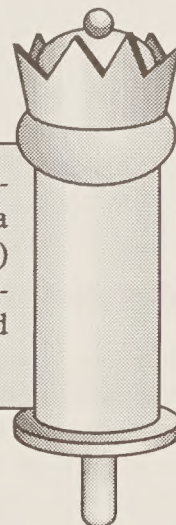
- ▶ March 2 - *Who We Are*
- ▶ March 9 - *How We Got Here*
- ▶ March 16 - *Melodies*
- ▶ March 23 - *Liturgy*
- ▶ March 30 - *Where We're Going*

New and longtime members are equally welcome. Come to any or all sessions. No reservations are required, just show up. Refreshments will be served.

Any questions, please call Membership Chair Joe Hample (621-7675) or the CSZ office.

## PURIM

It's time for Purim and time for you to get in touch with your inner costumed being. Festivities this year will include classes, a carnival, Megillah reading, Purim schpiel (like you won't believe) and your favorite klezmer band Oy Gayz Mir. Whatever your interest may be, don't forget to take off your everyday mask and put on your craziest Purim garb.



## Jewish Sources and Misconceptions about Organ Donation

Did you know that March is Organ Donor Month? Or that gay men cannot donate blood but are allowed to donate organs. If you are interested in learning more about organ donor policy or how to become an organ donor or simply to study what traditional Jewish sources say about this issue, please join us on March 29, 7:30-9 pm at CSZ. The discussion will be facilitated by Rabbi Dorothy A. Richman and will include a text study and a discussion with a professional in the field of organ donation.

## Rosh Chodesh Adar II: A Celebration of Women's History

Join other Women at CSZ on March 7 to sing, meditate, study text and eat at the New Moon ceremony of Adar II. Participate in this tradition that has brought women together for hundreds of years and be a part of ancient and modern Jewish rituals. Those interested in Rosh Chodesh and/or developing a CSZ Women's group are encouraged to attend.



## Congregational Seder

CSZ holds a community seder each year on the 2nd night of Pesach. The cost this year is \$30 for adult members, \$15 for children and \$40 for non-CSZ members. The reservation form is on page 9 of this newsletter; please cut and fill out the bottom portion of this form and return it to the CSZ office by April 3, in order to ensure your place at this popular CSZ event.

### Other Passover News

Rabbi Dorothy A. Richman will offer two Passover preparation classes this year covering both practical and spiritual aspects of the holiday. So save the dates: April 6 & 13, 7:30-9 pm, and we'll let you know more in the next issue.

### From Esther to Haman, Alef to Taf , A to Z

Join Rabbi Dorothy A. Richman March 15 at 7:30 pm in an exploration of the many facets of Purim. In this pre-Purim class, Rabbi Richman will unmask the unique nature of the Purim story and will answer all your questions: how to make a good hamentashen; was Esther really a feminist; why God is never mentioned in the Purim story. Come ready to learn and to have fun, the true Purim spirit. Members: free, Non-members: \$10.

## Adult Education Classes

Mechanics of Prayer, Rabbi Richman's three-class series in January explored the structure, text and choreography of the daily prayer cycle, Shacharit, Minchah and Ma'ariv. Participants in the class were treated to Rabbi Richman's spirited presentation of the significance and history of the services with wide ranging commentary from great rabbis throughout the ages and insights into how modern Jewish sects use liturgy in the light of their beliefs. The first two classes covered the P'sukei D'zimrah and the Shema with its blessings respectively. The third class was entirely devoted to the Amidah. Each class also covered the choreography of prayer including the when, how and why of bowing and handling the tzitzit. Some class time was also devoted to chavruta (study in small groups) using some portions of the text as the basis for discussion.

## New Siddur Premieres

We have just started using the test version of our new Friday night prayerbook. This new siddur has been several years in the making and is the product of much hard work by the Siddur Committee. During this test period we will be collecting feedback on the siddur. Siddur feedback forms will be available at every service for you to record your opinions and thoughts. We will consider each comment and do our best to improve the siddur based on all the feedback. We will also be hosting a series of feedback sessions before services. The first of these sessions will be held at 7 pm on March 3. The Adult Education Committee will also be conducting a series of classes on Sundays on the structure and content of the new siddur, stay tuned for details. You can also submit comments by email to [cszsiddur@aol.com](mailto:cszsiddur@aol.com), or by calling Tielia at 865-0225 or Dev at 753-5097.

All participants were enthused by the subject matter and presentation. Look for the next classes in this series, Mechanics of Prayer II, coming sometime in April or May.

Rabbi Richman will also be teaching a class on the history and celebration of Purim on Wednesday, March 15th at 7:30 pm and two classes on Passover, one covering the spiritual meaning and ritual observance of the Seder and the other on Passover Kashrut and *Bedikat Hametz*. The Passover classes will be held on consecutive Thursdays, April 6th and 13th at 7:30 pm.

Watch for upcoming classes on our new Siddur. The Siddur Committee will help us familiarize ourselves with the changes in our liturgy and discuss the reasoning behind these changes. (These classes will likely start in mid-March.)

## Va'ad Minutes

In her D'var Torah on Parshat Bo, Sue Bojdak pointed out that in Pharaoh's unhardened moments he acknowledged his guilt, pleaded for forgiveness and asked for a blessing from the God of the Israelites. She challenged us to explore the act of hardening our own hearts or those of others.

Treasurer Arthur Slepian indicated that we expect to close the year with a surplus. In addition, we will have to transfer any monies from our restricted funds. The Capital Campaign is currently on target. However, all of our cash reserves will be used up within two years if revenues and expenses remain constant. The Finance Committee concluded that immediate action is required. David Gellman proposed that we create a Revenue Task Force to consider ways to increase revenue from all potential sources over the next eight months. The task force might include three past presidents, three Va'ad members and three members at large. There was general approval. Thanks were expressed to Arthur for his work. David is currently soliciting names of people to sit on the task force.

Administrator Lea Salem updated the Va'ad on efforts to revitalize the Bikkur Cholim Committee. She also reported back from the Biennial and the National Association of Temple Administrators Convention and stressed that she has a lot of material on a range of topics and encourages people to use her as a resource.

President David Gellman summarized and invited discussion of Rabbi Yoffie's Presidential Sermon from the UAHC Biennial. A broad ranging discussion ensued which touched on a variety of topics and ideas related to political action, volunteerism, worship services, music, community, long range planning and generally revitalizing the congregation. Everyone was appreciative of David's sparking this discussion.



## Bikkur Cholim

by Avraham Giannini

Bikkur Cholim – I looked up the meaning thinking I would find some complex insights. But as usual in the Jewish world, the definition of the two words is very simple - visiting the sick - while the meaning is complex. At a recent discussion about the structure and function of the Bikkur Cholim committee at CSZ, Rabbi Dorothy Richman led a study of Talmud and the mitzvah of visiting the sick; the privilege accorded to the visitor as well as the sick; the need for the visitor to ask permission to serve the sick; and an insight / look at the Talmudic models of Rabbi Yohanan and his contemporaries. For someone who usually stays away from "committee meetings," I was snowed - even the joy of Talmud was present here. I shared my experience that some of my sickest asthmatic patients sometimes ask me how I am doing – and they are really concerned and care. This is so special for me and them allowing us both to truly participate in the dialogue of the healing process.

Later, Dahlia, who has brought us so much energy and direction and Lea, who has recently been the one woman de facto Bikkur Cholim Committee, gently guided us into three groups. We now have a Food (and comfort), Doctor Visit (and comfort) and Shiva (comfort) divisions, and we now understand that comfort is indeed the common denominator, and that if someone calls you to participate, it should be your joy to do so. Rabbi Dorothy teaches us that our activities should not be a burden but instead happy possibilities. The Bikkur Cholim Committee and all who are interested meet again April 4, at 7 pm with UAHC Rabbi Richard Address' presentation.

## The Synagogue as a Caring Community

What does it mean for the synagogue to be a caring community? It means that the congregation acts as an extended spiritual family. The congregation continually sends a message of involvement through direct service, and the expression of care and concern to members who are experiencing illness, bereavement and other difficulties in their lives. The caring community idea begins with the basic assumption that doing mitzvot is required of all of us.

On Tuesday, April 4 at 7 pm, the CSZ Bikkur Cholim (visiting the sick) Committee has invited Rabbi Richard Address to lead a training workshop on the spiritual, practical and ethical dimen-

sions of Gemilut Chasadim (acts of lovingkindness). The focus of the workshop will be an exploration of the needs of our congregation.

As Director of the UAHC's Department of Jewish Family Concerns, Rabbi Address travels around the country speaking on issues such as older adults, bioethics, substance abuse, AIDS, gay and lesbian inclusion and the synagogue as a caring community. He is an inspiring speaker who has led workshops at many congregations over the past several years.

If you are interested in participating in the workshop or becoming involved in Bikkur Cholim at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, please call the CSZ office.

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### Coming soon...

It is a mitzvah on Passover to let a stranger into your home. Here at Sha'ar Zahav we ask that you invite a fellow congregant into your home as well. If you have room at your table this year for the first night of Passover, April 19, and would like to extend an invitation to a CSZ member who is looking for a family of friends to join or if you are a CSZ member and are looking for a welcoming place to spend the first night of Passover, please call Dahlia Gross at 575-4961.



**Save the Date**

Congregational Meeting  
May 7th, 2000





## Tot Shabbat

January's Tot Shabbat celebration of Tu B'Shevat was a lot of fun. We had close to twenty families attending, which was a record! Many parents have remarked on how well the Tot Shabbat children get along - families gather for a brief service and activity and the children enjoy running around and playing together afterwards. On March 25, in honor of Purim, we will have a special music service and Purim arts and crafts. The March service will be led by Connie Tell and Jeff Nathanson. We are always looking for more leaders (we have a short Siddur just for this age group) - it is a great way to take leadership in a religious service with a very appreciative group. Anyone interested in volunteering to lead a service or an activity, please call Dahlia (575-4961) or Deena Lahn (h:584-8903, or w:510/663-2984).

Tot Shabbat is a monthly brief service and gathering for children ages 2-5 and their families and friends. We meet at CSZ on the fourth Saturday of every month at 10:30 am.

## Kadimah Needs Your Help

Our beloved educator is desperately looking for someone out there who knows someone, who knows someone, who would be willing to donate a new computer and printer to our school. Currently David is using an old computer that cannot run new Hebrew language software, and our one classroom computer cannot connect to the Internet. We would desperately like to get a new computer for the education office and move the Internet-accessible old office computer into the classroom to bring the Web's resources to our students.

If anyone has any leads on a techno-sponsor, please contact David Shneer at (575-4962 or [educator@shaarzahav.org](mailto:educator@shaarzahav.org)) as soon as possible.

## Bnei Mitzvah Mentorship Program

Interested in helping a student prepare for Bnei Mitzvah and learn something yourself in the process? CSZ is initiating a Bnei Mitzvah Mentorship Program to train the next generation of Bnei Mitzvah mentors. We are looking for able-minded people who would like to work one-on-one with a Sha'ar Zahav student, but who need to brush up on synagogue skills.

The Mentorship program will offer seminars to mentors on such subjects as prayerbook Hebrew, learning trope,

teaching techniques, introduction to Torah reading and mastering the CSZ siddur. Following the seminars, mentors will be matched with students in various stages of their Jewish education to begin the process of mentoring that is enriching for both the student and the mentor.

Please contact Elise Fineberg, CSZ's new Bnei Mitzvah Mentorship coordinator by email at [cszeducator@yahoo.com](mailto:cszeducator@yahoo.com), or by phone at 861-6932 for more information.

## Megillah Madness

Following on last year's successful Costume Purim Party, CSZ will be having its second annual Megillah Madness Purim Carnival. Our own Kadimah kids will help organize a synagogue-wide carnival for people of all ages. We encourage all to attend, be festive with the school, and add some Sha'ar Zahav spirit to the day.

**When:** Saturday, March 18,  
11:15 am-1:00 pm  
(following services and a shortened Kadimah session)

**Where:** Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

### How you can help:

1) Prize donations. As part of the carnival, and in keeping with our non-competitive and non-commercial spi-

rit of Purim, carnival prizes are given to everyone. And to collect prizes, we ask everyone to bring in old toys, games, tchochkes to give out as carnival prizes. One child's simple puzzle is another child's form of entertainment for hours. Think of this as a toy exchange. Please bring as many small prizes as possible to the educator's office anytime before March 18. There will be a red tub to deposit toys and other kitchy objects for great prizes. And, yes, adults can win too.

2) Help run a booth. Help one of the Kadimah classes run a carnival booth by coming at 9:30 am to help plan a class's booth. Please contact our educator David Shneer 575-4962 or [educator@shaarzahav.org](mailto:educator@shaarzahav.org) to participate.

## Here's what's going on in March:

Wednesdays		Saturday	
3/1	Regular Kadimah	3/4	Regular Kadimah
3/8	Regular Kadimah	3/11	Regular Kadimah
3/15	Regular Kadimah	3/18	Regular Kadimah Kadimah Carnival (see separate article)
3/22	Regular Kadimah		
3/29	Regular Kadimah	3/25	Special Purim schedule

## Kadimah Purim:

Kadimah's schedule on Purim Saturday will be altered to accommodate our carnival. Classes will start at regular time (9:30 am) with all classes joining CSZ's services for a family oriented program. At 10:30 am families will return to the classroom for a family-oriented Purim activity. In addition, each class will be preparing a booth for Megillah Madness, the Sha'ar Zahav Purim Carnival. The carnival starts at noon.

Costumes are MANDATORY by edict of King Ahasuerus!



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Members of the congregation receive the *Forward* as part of their membership. Nonmembers can receive a *Forward* subscription for \$18/year.

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**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ads and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California, 94103, marked: attention *Forward* advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

March 2000 Volume 23, Issue 7.



## Why Is This New Member Different From All Others?

By Marc Wernick

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is pleased to welcome the scholarly, worldly and philanthropic Bernard Schertzer to the congregation. Bernard is a self-described "itinerant teacher." Born in New York City, raised in San Diego, Bernard first moved to San Francisco in 1990, left, and then returned again in 1993. He has traveled extensively to many countries including Taiwan, Brazil, Thailand, Japan and Ecuador.

So, pull up a chair, whip out your passport and have a dictionary handy as the *Gaily Forward* asks the 4 questions and explores "Why is this member different from all other members?"

*Q. In what ways do you identify as a Jew?*

A. "That was the hand that I was dealt," replied Bernard. Born into an orthodox home, though one without frocks and beards, he was sent to Hebrew school as a young child in the Bronx. When his family moved to Southern California, he was promptly enrolled in Hebrew School again. Bernard quickly equivocated, "My early education, however, did not really take. I attended CSZ many years ago, but wasn't really ready for synagogue. I was basically a 'High Holiday Jew' until I moved to Japan."

Bernard then described his involvement with the JCC in Tokyo. It was the only synagogue in the city and attracted a constant flow of Jews from around the world. At the JCC, Bernard got involved with a group of "yeshiva bochers" and became involved in study and mysticism. Bernard has carried that love and that tradition to CSZ where he is a regular at

Saturday morning Torah study. "Torah is the center of Judaism. And I have a scholarly bent."

*Q. Speaking of Torah, which mitzvah is the most compelling and important to you?*

A. "Perform one kind act a day," Bernard quickly responded. And he is a man of his word. In fact, just before we spoke for this interview, Bernard was at the synagogue because he had recently become a member of the Library Committee. Bernard has volunteered for the past three years at an AIDS residence where he gives over ten hours of time each week.

*Q. What are your favorite holidays and traditions?*

A. "I love Purim - cooking and baking the hamentaschen, the customs of Esther, Mordecai and Ahasuerus. Although I have not dressed up in years!" he exclaimed. Maybe we can convince him! "I also love dancing with the Torah on Simchat Torah."

*Q. Passover is right around the corner. Any special plans?*

A. Bernard is excited to lead a Seder at a non-Jewish friend's home. "I plan to get them involved in the act - having them ask the four questions and such. It is an old teaching trick," he explained. "And there will be all the traditional food - wine soaked apples, the eggs and horseradish."

Please join me in welcoming Bernard to our synagogue. We look forward to his continued involvement in making CSZ a special place for all of our members.

Earnings Devoted to Philanthropy

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Gene B. Kaufman, Executive Director



# March-Adar I/Adar II

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY
						1
<div>WE'RE SORRY WE'RE LATE</div> <p>We're aware that many of you have been receiving your Forward quite late these past few months. We are working to rectify this problem and expect it to be resolved within the next two months. In the meantime, we'll include the first week of the following month in our calendar so you don't miss any CSZ events.</p> <p><i>The Newsletter committee</i></p>						<div>• 4 pm - Kadimah</div>
5	28 Adar I	6	29 Adar I	7	30 Adar I	8
						<div>• 4 pm - Kadimah</div> <div>• 6:30 pm - Rosh</div> <div>• 7 pm - JFG Editin</div>
12	5 Adar II	13	6 Adar II	14	7 Adar II	15
<div>• 4 pm - Music in the Mishkan</div> <div>• 6 pm - JGF Layout</div>		<div>• 6:30 pm - Va'ad Meeting</div>		<div>• 7 pm - Adult Education Committee</div>		<div>• 4 pm - Kadimah</div> <div>• 7:30 pm-9 pm -</div>
19	12 Adar II	20	13 Adar II	21	14 Adar II	22
		<div>Erev Purim</div> <div>• 6 pm Megillah Reading led by <i>Daniel Chesir and Brian Besser</i></div>				<div>• 4 pm - Kadim</div>
26	19 Adar II	27	20 Adar II	28	21 Adar II	29
<div>• 2 pm-4 pm - Gays and Lesbians in the Holocaust at SFPL</div> <div>• 3 pm - Cooking with Prudence Carter</div>		<div>• 7:30 pm-9:30 pm - Great Books with Sheila Jelen</div>				<div>• 4 pm - Kadim</div> <div>• 7 pm-9 pm - Jev</div> <div>Mis</div> <div>Org</div>
2	26 Adar II	3	27 Adar II	4	28 Adar II	5
<div>• 11 pm-2 pm - Intergenerational Dialogue</div>		<div>• 2 pm-3 pm - Healing Service</div> <div>• 6:30 pm - Children's Education Board Meeting</div>		<div>• 7 pm - Bikkur Cholim Workshop led by <i>Rabbi Richard Address</i></div>		<div>• 4 pm - Kadim</div> <div>• 7 pm - Discus</div> <div>the Sid</div>



# אדר א' / אדר ב'

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
24 Adar I	2 25 Adar I	3 26 Adar I	4 Shabbat Shekalim 27 Adar I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm-9 pm - CSZ 101: Who We Are</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:47 pm - Candle Lighting</li> <li>6:30 pm - Dor Rishon Brotherhood Dinner</li> <li>8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Luis Moscovich and Judith Holiber</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:15 am - Torah Study</li> <li>9:30 am - Kadimah Class</li> <li>10 am - Shabbat Services led by Tiela Chalmers</li> <li>1 pm-2:15 pm - Meditation Chavurah</li> </ul>
1 Adar II	9 2 Adar II	10 3 Adar II	11 Shabbat Pekudei 4 Adar II
Mesh Celebration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm-9 pm - CSZ 101: How We Got Here</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:54 pm - Candle Lighting</li> <li>8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Richman and Tiela Chalmers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:15 am - Torah Study</li> <li>9:30 am - Kadimah Class</li> <li>10 am - Shabbat Services led by Frank Yellin</li> <li>1 pm-2:15 pm - Meditation Chavurah</li> </ul>
8 Adar II	16 9 Adar II	17 10 Adar II	18 Shabbat Vayikra 11 Adar II
Purim Class by Rabbi Richman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm-9 pm - CSZ 101: Melodies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 noon - Social Action Tenderloin Lunch</li> <li>6:01 pm - Candle Lighting</li> <li>8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Eileen Levy and Sarita Groisser</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:15 am - Torah Study</li> <li>9:30 am - Kadimah Class</li> <li>10 am - Shabbat Services led by Tiela Chalmers and Ora Prochovnick</li> <li>11:15 am - Purim Carnival</li> <li>1 pm-2:15 pm - Meditation Chavurah</li> </ul>
15 Adar II	23 16 Adar II	24 17 Adar II	25 Shabbat Tzav 18 Adar II
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm-9 pm - CSZ 101: Liturgy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:07 pm - Candle Lighting</li> <li>8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Howard Steiermann and Lyssa Friedman</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:15 am - Torah Study</li> <li>9:30 am - Kadimah Class</li> <li>10 am - Shabbat Services led by Robin Leonard</li> <li>10:30 am - Tot Shabbat Purim Service</li> <li>1 pm-2:15 pm - Meditation Chavurah</li> </ul>
22 Adar II	30 23 Adar II	31 24 Adar II	1 Shabbat Shemini 25 Adar II
Sources andceptions aboutonations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 pm - Ritual Committee</li> <li>7 pm-9 pm - CSZ 101: Where We're Going</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:14 pm - Candle Lighting</li> <li>6:30 pm - Shabbat Across America dinner - Membership Committee bring a friend</li> <li>8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Jeff Piade, Allan Gordon and Larry Wexler</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:15 am - Torah Study</li> <li>10 am - Shabbat Services led by Tiela Chalmers and Ora Prochovnick</li> <li>1 pm-2:15 pm - Meditation Chavurah</li> </ul>
29 Adar II	6 1 Nisan	<div> <div>MARCH DEADLINE MONDAY, MAR. 6</div> <div>ARTICLES</div> <p>Please submit articles via email to <a href="mailto:brian.jersky@sonoma.edu">brian.jersky@sonoma.edu</a>. If you do not have email, please submit articles on a 3.5 inch disk and mail to CSZ. No late submissions will be accepted without prior approval of the Forward editor.</p> <div>ADVERTISING</div> <p>To place a display ad, contact Rosyln Fuerman (510/526-1209 or <a href="mailto:froslyn@earthlink.net">froslyn@earthlink.net</a>). To place a classified ad, call the office.</p> </div>	
new siddur with Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 pm-7:30 pm - Passover Prep Class led by Rabbi Richman</li> </ul>		



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## HORIZONS 2000 in New Jersey - More Than You Know!

The World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations and New Jersey's Lesbian and Gay Havurah are the co-hosts of HORIZONS 2000, the 16th World Conference of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Jews, which will take place from Thursday, July 27 through Sunday, July 30, 2000, in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey, USA. In addition to an extraordinary selection of seminars, there will also be outstanding speakers, special guests, unique exhibitors, entertainment and religious services during the weekend. For more information, call 1-732-650-1010, write to HORIZONS 2000, P.O. Box 2576, Edison, New Jersey 08818-2576, send email to [conf@njhav.org](mailto:conf@njhav.org), or visit the conference web page at [www.njhav.org](http://www.njhav.org).

### Sponsor an Oneg Shabbat!

Sponsoring the oneg Shabbat following services is a lovely way to commemorate a special occasion. Onegs can be sponsored in honor of a simcha, as a tribute to the memory of a loved one, or "just because." The cost is \$80-\$120 and we have a number of available dates in the coming months. Please call the CSZ office if you would like to inquire about sponsoring an oneg Shabbat on a specific date or would like more information.

## Synagogue Information

### Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

290 Dolores Street  
861-6932 (voice); 861-6081 (fax)  
Programming office, 575-4961  
Education office, 575-4962  
[office@shaarzahav.org](mailto:office@shaarzahav.org) (email)  
<http://www.shaarzahav.org> (web)

### Officers:

President, David Gellman (550-9449),  
- [sfgellman@aol.com](mailto:sfgellman@aol.com) or  
- [president@shaarzahav.org](mailto:president@shaarzahav.org)  
Vice President, Lisa Katz

Vice President, Lyssa Friedman  
Treasurer, Arthur Siepian  
Recorder, Sue Bojdak

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Steven Berlin  
Diana Buchbinder (ex officio)  
Ellie Cohen  
Sarita Groisser  
Howard Herman  
Rose Katz  
Robin Leonard  
Jacob Rothman  
Robert Tat

### CSZ Staff:

Interim Educator, Elise Fineberg  
Administrator, Lea Salem  
- [office@shaarzahav.org](mailto:office@shaarzahav.org)  
Program Director, Dahlia Gross  
- [cszdahlia@yahoo.com](mailto:cszdahlia@yahoo.com)  
Kadimah Head Teacher, Phyllis Mintzner  
Administrative Assistant, Melanie Kushnir  
- [mkushnir@shaarzahav.org](mailto:mkushnir@shaarzahav.org)  
Youth Advisor, Meredith Fenton  
Rabbinical Consultant, Dorothy Richman

### Committee Chairs:

Adult Education, Ron Edelman and Prudence Carter  
Archives, open  
Baby Chavurah, open  
Bequests and Donations, Richard Inlander  
Bikkur Cholim, forming  
Bisexual Havurah, Jim Frazin  
Book Group, Mark Mackler  
Building and Grounds, Arthur Cohen  
Bylaws, Richard Inlander  
Children's Education Board, Liz Schaffer  
Dor Rishon, open  
Dues Liaison, open  
East Bay Havurah, Ida Kuluk and Larry Wexler  
Endowment Fund, David Stein

Environmental Action, open  
Finance, Arthur Slepian  
Fine Arts, Bob Gutterman  
Fundraising, Jacob Rothman  
Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin  
Israel Havurah, Ron Lezell  
La'atid, Geoff Benjamin  
Leadership Development, Paul Cohen  
Library, Joan Goldman  
Long-Range Planning, Allan Gold  
Membership, Joe Hample  
Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign, Ellie Cohen  
Newsletter, Brian Jersky  
- [brian.jersky@sonoma.edu](mailto:brian.jersky@sonoma.edu)  
Past Presidents Council, David Stein  
Personnel, Lyssa Friedman  
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky  
Rabbi Search, Diana Buchbinder and Alex Ingersoll  
Ritual, Nicole Bloom  
- [bloomn@netscape.net](mailto:bloomn@netscape.net)  
Social Action, Laura Lowe and Allan Berenstein  
Toddler/Pre-school Havurah, Deena Lahn  
UAHC National Liaison, Mike Rankin  
UAHC Regional Liaisons, Daniel Chesir and Robin Leonard  
WCGLBJO Liaison, David Gellman  
Women's Havurah, open

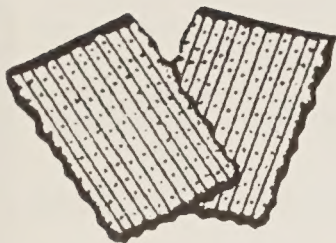
*Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.*

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

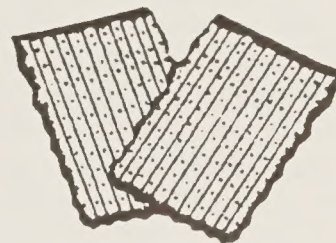
**Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.**



# Congregation Seder Reservations



## *Congregational Seder Thursday, April 20, 2000 Fort Mason Officer's Club*



### **Reservations must be received by Monday, April 3, 2000**

As always, we will celebrate Passover as a congregation on the second night, which this year falls on Thursday, April 20. We will hold our seder at Fort Mason Officer's Club, where we have enjoyed ourselves in a surprisingly haimish atmosphere. The food is very good and the price is extremely reasonable.

Space is limited and allocated on a "first come" basis, with CSZ members given priority. Please fill out the reservation form below, and return it to the CSZ office **NO LATER THAN Monday, April 3.**

We always need a few volunteers for an hour or so before the seder to help set up the tables. If you can help, please contact the CSZ office.

**NOTE: Fort Mason Officer's Club is located at the very foot of Franklin Street across Bay Street in the park, NOT across from the Marina Safeway.**

----- ✂ -----

*Please print:* NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ MEMBER

☐ NON-MEMBER

Please reserve the following number of places for:

\_\_\_\_\_ MEMBERS @ \$30

\_\_\_\_\_ NON-MEMBERS @ \$40

\_\_\_\_\_ CHILDREN @ \$15

Indicate choice of meal(s): \_\_\_\_\_ CHICKEN \_\_\_\_\_ VEGETARIAN

Would you like to be seated at a table of single people? \_\_\_\_\_.

Please list people on the reverse of this page with whom you would like to be seated. **EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO SATISFY ALL REQUESTS, BUT THEY CANNOT BE GUARANTEED UNLESS A WHOLE TABLE IS RESERVED.**

Our synagogue subsidizes the cost of the seder for children and those unable to afford the entire cost. Can you help with this?

I WISH TO DONATE \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOWARDS SUBSIDIES

I/WE WISH TO REQUEST A SUBSIDY \_\_\_\_\_.

Signing for hearing impaired people can be requested when reservations are made.

**ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE CSZ OFFICE NO LATER THAN MONDAY, APRIL 3.** My check is enclosed in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.





## Hidden Legacies: Lesbians and Gay Men in Nazi Germany

Please join the Hormell Center of the SF Public Library, The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission and CSZ for "Hidden Legacies" a discussion about gay men and women in Nazi Germany. Guest speakers will include, among others, CSZ member Jerry Rosenstein, and CSZ Education Director, David Shneer. The panel will address the specific persecution of gays and lesbians before and during the Holocaust; a gay man's personal account of being persecuted as a Jew in the camps and modern day examples of homophobia in the reparation talks.

The program will be on March 26, 2-4 pm at the Public Library's Koret Auditorium.

### East Bay Services

March 17, 8:15 pm

Shabbat Services at the home of Kathy Simon, Inbal Kashtan and Yanai 14 Alida Court, Oakland 94602, 510/530-5302

## For All Things Judaic

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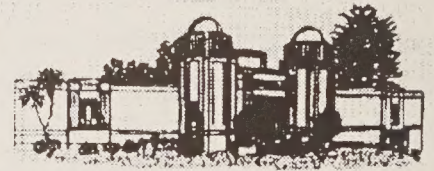


Great  
New  
Merchandise!

Open Fridays 7:30-8:05 pm or by appointment. Call 861-6932.

Many people who saw the Dolores St. photo on the front page of the February Forward didn't realize it depicts the present day site of the synagogue. If you didn't recognize the old Mission Dolores, you might not have made the connection.

The Mission is the building on the far left of the photo. Directly to the right of the Mission is the site of the current basilica church. Next to that would be 16th street and then the Mishkan, at approximately the site of the white building in the center of the photo.



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650/756-3633

Please list people you would like to sit with here.


MAIL TO: **CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV**  
**290 DOLORES STREET**  
**SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103**



For further information, contact the synagogue office at 415/861-6932.



# Contributions

## Adult Education Fund

**Marjorie Hilsenrad**, in honor of Ron Edelman, Dahlia Gross, Rabbi Dorothy Richman and all the other hardworking members of the Adult Education Committee.

**Jeanette Nichols**, with prayers for the complete healing of Phyllis Mintzer.

## AIDS Fund

**Neil Hart**, in memory of Tim Elliott.

## Bikkur Cholim Fund

**Jerry Rosenstein**.

**Rabbi Eric Weiss and Dan Alpert**, in memory of Lee Schwartz.

## Chesir-Stein Music Fund

**Henry Carrey**, in memory of Abraham Carrey.

## Children's Education Fund

**Aaron and Emma Buchbinder**, in memory of Roy Garay.

**Beatrice Lieberman**, in memory of Estelle Lieberman.

**Bon and Johanna Singer**, in appreciation of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

**David Stein and Alex Ingersoll**, in honor of the birth of Jesse Lev Felder Noily.

**Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart**, in honor of the births of Jesse Lev Felder Noily and Amalia Blume Cymrot-Wu.

**Rabbi Eric Weiss and Dan Alpert**, in memory of Essie, beloved friend of Maxine Epstein, Geraldine Barr, Ma'ayan and Adina.

**David Stein and Alex Ingersoll**, in honor of the birth of Amalia Blume Cymrot-Wu.

**Jonathan Funk and John Arnold**, in memory of Bernice Wiseman.

**Kyle West**, in memory of Eric Morris.

**Manny Fishman and Leslie Kane**, in honor of the birth of Amalia Blume Cymrot-Wu.

**Rabbi Martha Bergadine and Rabbi Stanton Zamak**, in honor of Phyllis Mintzer's receiving the Morah Derech Award and in honor of all the CSZ members at the Biennial.

**Ruth Rainero, Pieter de Haan, Ilana and Benjamin**, in loving memory of Belle Rainero.

## General Fund

**Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart**, in memory of Ben Freeman.

**Ami Zusman**, in memory of Benjamin Herzl Saperstein.

**Deborah Udin and Lucy Cefalu**, in memory of Brian Christianson.

**James Carlson**, in honor of the birth of Amalia Blume Cymrot-Wu.

**Bryanchikovitch Rubinstein**, in appreciation of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

**Carol and Jordon Levitin**, in memory of Ron Wilmot.

**Deborah Udin and Lucy Cefalu**, in memory of Ron Wilmot.

**Jeffrey Sherman**, in memory of Sadye Newman.

**Edward Pollock**, in memory of Irvin Pollock.

**Nancy Meyer**, in memory of Henry Lutz Meyer.

**Edward Pollock**, in memory of Robin Greenwald.

**James Carlson**, in honor of the birth of Jesse Lev Felder Noily.

**Deborah Udin and Lucy Cefalu**, in honor of Jeff Shuman.

**Jeffrey Sherman**, in memory of Jay Shlachter.

**Jerry Rosenstein**, in honor of Tiela Chalmer's 40th birthday.

**Joe Hample**, in memory of Forrest Kincaid.

**Eli Weinstein**, in memory of Frank Braecklein.

**Joyce Garay**, in memory of Roy Garay.

**Jay Kerzner and Paul E. Colarik**, in honor of James Carlson.

**Michael and Elizabeth Schaffer**, in memory of Louis Schaffer.

**Navid Dayzad**, in honor of his mother.

**Rabbi Eric Weiss and Dan Alpert**, in memory of Ben Freeman.

**Russell and Carol Tat**, in memory of Max Samuel Tat.

**Sharon and Zan Kleinman-Blaum**, in honor of their wedding.

**Drew Parker-Rose**.

**Steve Elman and Tom Holt**, in honor of the birth of Jesse Lev Felder Noily.

## Harvey Milk Social Action Fund

**Allan Berenstein**, in memory of Allen Harris.

**Allan Berenstein**, in memory of Cheryl Orvis.

## Library Fund

**Lucy Bernholz**, in memory of Alice Bernholz Sinkoff.

## Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign

**Hal Podgur**, in memory of Bill Ross.

**Sharyn Saslasky**, in honor of Tiela Chalmer's 40th birthday.

**Anne and David Steierman**, in honor of Walter and Ilse Steierman.

**Becky Dixon**, in memory of Rachel Mailman.

## Prayerbook Fund

**Sara Comerchero**, in honor of the lives of her parents, Isaac Judah Comerchero and Bertha Belmonte Comerchero.

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**Lisa Ochs**, in appreciation of Rabbi Richman.

Special thanks to **Mike Klayman**, for his contribution to offset the costs of cleaning and re-lamping the *ner tamid*, sanctuary and foyer light fixtures.

Special thanks to **David Maltz**, for his sponsorship of the receptions following Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's Music in the Mishkan concert series.

## Intergenerational Dialogue: An exploration of GLBT identity and gender fluidity

Please join us on Sunday April 2, from 11 am until 2 pm for Sha'ar Zahav's first intergenerational dialogue! This is a chance to engage in a lively dialogue about how our GLBT identities and ideas about gender vary across multiple age lines, as well as an opportunity to foster a greater sense of community. Come meet new friends and enjoy the diversity of our members at Sha'ar Zahav. Please join us for discussion, bagels and coffee. All are very welcome to attend.

Questions? Please contact Rose Katz (647-3579) or Stacey

H  
Y  
C

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## Music in the Mishkan

Sha'ar Zahav's Chamber Music Series will continue on March 12 at 4 pm with A Journey Through Music. The program includes pieces by W.A. Mozart, Handel-Halvorsen, B. Martinu, W. Ryden, B. Bartok and L. van Beethoven. Tickets are available at the door for \$8-\$15 adults, \$2-\$5 seniors.

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## The UAHC Board of Trustees

By Mike Rankin

On Monday, February 7, I attended a meeting of the Executive Committee of the UAHC Board of Trustees in New York.

At that meeting, Rabbi Paul Menitoff, Executive Director of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), briefed us on a resolution on same gender marriage to be voted on at the CCAR, in late March. The resolution defines loving gay and lesbian relationships as sacred, and as worthy of sanctification by rabbis, in the synagogue, as those of heterosexual couples. Rabbi Menitoff is a strong supporter of the resolution; he believes it will pass.

But, as I am writing this in mid-February, it seems the majority of the good citizens of California do not approve of same gender marriage. That being the case, I think it's important to remind ourselves that in all our struggles for justice, we do have strong support from many not of our community.

"May their tribe increase."

## DREAMING OF PROPERTY

- Buying your first home? • Buying a second vacation home?
- Buying commercial or investment property? • Refinancing residential or commercial property?

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### STEP TWO:



Find the right property for you  
Call Deborah Udin  
**Zephyr Real Estate**  
415-552-0129 x122

### STEP THREE: Pick up your keys.

Percentage of all  
commissions to CSZ

## ACROSS AMERICA

"It is not the Jews who keep Shabbat; it is Shabbat that keeps the Jews."

—Ahad Ha' Am

Imagine a time when congregations throughout North America—Reform, Conservative, Orthodox and Reconstructionist—reach out to Jews in their communities and as one, unified people, celebrate Shabbat.

That time is at hand. On Friday night, March 31, half a million people across the United States and Canada will come together to celebrate the fourth annual Shabbat Across America/Canada. This event is sponsored by the National Jewish Outreach Program.

At CSZ we'll meet at 6:30 for a festive shabbat dinner with singing, dancing and special guests. For more details, call Dahlia in the synagogue office or watch announcement sheets. Information about the nationwide program is available online at [uahc.org/synaff/saa.html](http://uahc.org/synaff/saa.html) or [njop.org](http://njop.org).

### March Birthdays

- 1 Lisa Geduldig  
Arthur Slepian
- 3 Shelley Adler  
Edmund Blaik  
Howard Herman
- 5 Stephanie Godt  
Edward Pollock  
Elias Rose  
Nancy Wecker
- 7 Arlene Singer
- 8 Ann Biderman  
David Couch  
Phyllis Mintzer
- 9 Stephanie Houser  
Nancy Igdaloff  
Perry Paker

- 10 Stephen Shotland  
Dana Vinicoff
- 11 Jessie Ap'neva  
Bill Mindlin
- 12 Jerome Geffner
- 13 Michael Frank  
Mary Schroeder
- 14 Dey Rose
- 15 Jeffrey Davidson

- 16 Tracey Berliner  
Jonathan Pannor  
Alice Prussin
- 17 Ian Sweedler
- 18 Ann Bauman
- 21 Mike Abramson  
Jeffrey Shuman
- 22 Ezra Barth-Rogers  
Talia Barth-Rogers  
Ellen Novogrodsky
- 23 Leslie Einhorn

- 24 Lucy Bernholz
- 27 Rebecca Doctors
- 28 Michael Hulton
- 29 Bob Gutterman  
Ira Hirschfield
- 30 Anthony Harris  
Carol Hoffman  
David Maltz
- 31 Jonathan Robinson



## Naches

To **Barbara Cymrot, Daphna Wu, and Ruby Cymrot-Wu** on the birth of Amalia Blume.

To **Susan Kirshbaum and Kathleen Rosaria Connor** on the birth of Ayla.

To **Michael Sarid** on his new job as the Director of Annual Giving at Jewish Family and Children's Services and for happily leaving the practice of law.

To **Sarita Groisser** for being recognized by the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights for her work as the interpreter for a Guatemalan domestic violence survivor applying for political assylum in the US.

To **Ruth Schoenbach** on the book she co-authored, *Reading for Understanding: A Guide to Improving Reading in Middle and High School Classrooms*, and now in its second printing.

To **Mark Troy and Steven Wilkinson** on their new home.

To **Tiela Chalmers, Kailin Koch, Susan Mizner and Andrea Palash** on their new home.

To **Rabbi Eric Weiss** on being named Executive Director of the Bay Area Jewish Healing Center.

## Condolences

We extend our condolences to members who have suffered recent losses:

**Chaya Rivka Myerson**, on the death of her great aunt, Helen Martin.

**Rick Crane**, on the death of his friend, Mike Leven.

**Lisa Feldstein and Max Drukman**, on the death of their sister-in-law, Jeanne Drukman.

**Eli Weinstein**, on the death of his friend, Frank Braecklein.

**Joan Goldman**, on the death of her friend, Susie Gerard.

**Jonathan Funk**, on the death of his aunt, Bernice Wiseman.

**Howard Steiermann**, on the death of his former mother-in-law, Mitzi Rubinstein.

**Jen Levinson**, on the death of her mother, Lynn Gehler Levinson.

## Oneg & Flower Sponsorship

These generous people sponsored the Oneg Shabbat or sanctuary flowers in recent weeks:

- 1/28 Flowers by **Rebecca Goldfader** in honor of her mother Cara Goldfader's visit from Boston.
- 2/4 Oneg by **Josh and Karyl Noily, Frances Felder and Monty Felder** in honor of Jesse Lev Felder Noily.
- 2/4 Flowers by **Judith Holiber and Kim Warsaw** in loving memory of Judith's mother, Caryl Holiber.
- 2/11 Oneg by **Norma Faini-Pick** "just because."
- 2/11 Flowers sponsored by **CSZ** in honor of the Siddur Committee.
- 2/18 Oneg generously sponsored by **Ralph and Elaine Kirshbaum** in honor of welcoming their granddaughter, Ayla Connor Kirshbaum.
- 2/18 Flowers sponsored by **Ron Edelman** in honor of his cousin Jerry Edelman's visit and in loving memory of his friend, Tom Mapp.

2/25 Oneg by **Jeffrey Davidson**.

2/26 Oneg by **Amalia Blume's family** in honor of her baby naming

Special thanks to **David Maltz** who is generously sponsoring flowers for one service a month through the calendar year.

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

**Ashley Kreisel  
Riley Morgan  
Laura Gold  
Geri Kahn**

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

## Classifieds

**CO-PARENT WANTED.** I am a 35-year-old warm, educated, financially secure San Franciscan who will make a great dad. Looking for a woman or couple in the area interested in co-parenting. Flexibility, communication, stability and commitment to raising the child Jewish a must. Can't hurt to explore the option. Call 415/552-9212.

**TROPICAL PARADISE**-Kauai vacation rental: 2 cottages & 1 bedroom house on private drive sharing lush garden. Centrally located. Call Sandy Meyers (808/822-7537) or e-mail sand@aloha.net.

**ALL THINGS MACINTOSH:** Trouble-shooter for hire! Solve mysterious freezes. Improve performance. Soft-ware support, tutoring and more. Roslyn, 510/526-1209.

**PET CARETAKERS:** Full-time, part-time and SUMMER positions available. Must love dogs and cats. Applicant must be at least 16 years old. Send resumes or letters to Pet Camp, 525 Phelps St., San Francisco, 94124 or fax 415-282-1192. Check out our web site: [www.petcamp.com](http://www.petcamp.com).

**DESPERATELY SEEKING HOUSING!** CSZ Kadimah Teacher seeks 1 bedroom apartment in San Francisco, up to \$1400/month. I am gainfully employed, responsible, have good credit, and don't smoke. I have an older, trained, quiet black Labrador that would live with me. Flexible moving date, as I now live in Berkeley. Please call Caryn at 510.845.3146, or email at [Caryn.Aviv@ucsfstanford.org](mailto:Caryn.Aviv@ucsfstanford.org)

## Members' Yahrzeits

7 Isabel Fishman  
6 Ted Mendonca  
20 Robert Coffman  
26 Michael Lipson  
28 Neill Rosen  
31 Marvin Steele

## March Anniversaries

11 Mark Oliver and Steven Polsky  
15 Bernard Choden and Lois Scott  
22 Michele Sullivan and Andrew Williamson  
24 Geraldine Barr and Maxine Epstein  
31 Jessie Ap'neva and Nina Wouk



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